

<b>Lesson Aim</b>	To understand: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How the offices of prophet, priest, and king arose from the Old Testament.</li><li>2. How Jesus Christ fulfills all three of these offices.</li><li>3. What our role is as prophet, priest, and king — in short, why we are called Christians.</li></ol>
<b>Steps to Learning</b>	Read the <a href="#">Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 12</a> and <a href="#">Luke 4:16-30</a> . Discuss the sermon and the particulars of the lesson below. It may be best to work through the material over several days or sessions.
<b>Discuss</b>	<p><b>How do we understand Adam and Eve as prophets, priests and kings?</b> As prophets, they had a knowledge of God and the Law God demanded them to obey. As priests, they were to be holy, turning from sin and were tasked with keeping the Garden temple clear of evil. As King (and Queen), they were to rule the creation by cultivating it and filling it with faithful children.</p> <p><b>What happened after the fall?</b> Adam and Eve and all people who followed them in history, lost the ability to function as faithful prophets, priests and kings. The function of each office remains for us but we, in our sin, do not carry out the duties in faith.</p> <p><b>How did prophets, priests and kings function in Israel?</b> The prophets of Israel were "covenant lawyers" keeping the people faithful to the Law of God. When the people failed, they were convicted of their sin by the prophets but also the prophets pointed them to the Christ to come in whom they would find forgiveness. The priests of Israel helped the people to worship God through the sacrificial system. The kings of Israel ruled the people and guided them in the Old Testament expression of the Kingdom of God.</p> <p><b>Christ was the perfect prophet, priest and king. To understand his roles well we need to understand what his name, "Christ" means. What does it mean?</b> The word "Christ" comes from the Hebrew word for Messiah, which means anointed for special service. Christ's human nature was anointed by the Holy Spirit so that he could serve his people.</p> <p><b>How was Christ the perfect prophet, priest and king?</b> As prophet, Christ was and is the eternal Word of God who preached on earth about himself and the Gospel. As priest, his sacrificed his very life on the cross for our salvation. As king, Christ rules us from the right hand of the Father in heaven.</p> <p><b>What does it mean for us to be called Christians?</b> It means that we are given the duty to follow Christ and sacrifice our very lives for him.</p>
<b>Bible Reading</b>	<a href="#">Psalms 8–14</a> (Reading through the Psalms)